

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. through 43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to condition a grip on a shaft of a golf club, the apparatus comprising:

an outer cushioned layer that includes a top portion, a bottom portion, an interior surface, an opening formed at the bottom portion, an internal volume defined as the volume bordered by the interior surface of the outer cushioned layer and the opening of the outer cushioned layer, and an exterior surface, wherein the outer cushioned layer is substantially waterproof such that water may not easily directly pass through the outer cushioned layer from the exterior surface of the outer cushioned layer to the interior surface of the outer cushioned layer;

~~an~~ a moisture absorbent member positioned within the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer, the moisture absorbent member operable to receive the grip

on the shaft of the golf club through the opening formed at the bottom portion of the outer cushioned layer; and

a coupling operable to attach the apparatus to a golf bag ~~in such a manner that the opening of the outer cushioned layer is positioned generally downwardly to prevent downwardly falling rain from entering the opening of the outer cushioned layer and wetting the absorbent member~~, wherein the grip on the shaft of the golf club may be inserted into the opening of the outer cushioned layer and into the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer, the outer cushioned layer operable to be squeezed until it is deformed to contact the moisture absorbent member with the grip on the shaft of the golf club to provide additional contact between the moisture absorbent member and the grip on the shaft of the golf club to condition the grip while a portion of the shaft of the golf club is positioned within the opening of the outer cushioned layer without the opening being sealingly engaged around the portion of the shaft of the golf club

~~positioned within the opening, wherein the outer cushioned layer is operable to return to its original shape after being squeezed and to allow the golf club to be removed from the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer.~~

45. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the moisture absorbent member is rectangular shaped and is positioned within the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer in a folded position.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, further comprising a cloth material positioned over the exterior surface of the outer cushioned layer.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer is a closed-cell foam.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, further comprising:

a logo displayed on the exterior surface of the outer cushioned layer.

49. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer includes ventilation openings that extend from the exterior surface of the outer cushioned layer to the interior surface of the outer cushioned layer, and wherein the ventilation openings of the outer cushioned layer are not substantially waterproof.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer is nylon.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer is leather.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer is rubber.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer is plastic.

54. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer cushioned layer is made of one of the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride, neoprene, polyolefin, vinyl/nitrile, ~~ARMAFLEX~~, ~~RUBATEX~~, and polyurethane.

55. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 44,
further comprising:

a compound positioned in the moisture absorbent member to
impart a tacky grip.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) A method for conditioning a grip on a shaft of a golf club, the method comprising:

positioning an apparatus to condition the grip on the shaft of the golf club on a golf bag, the apparatus including:

an outer ~~cushioned~~ layer that includes a top portion, a bottom portion, an interior surface, an opening formed at the bottom portion, an internal volume defined as the volume bordered by the interior surface of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer and the opening of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer, and an exterior surface, wherein the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer is substantially waterproof such that water may not easily directly pass through the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer from the exterior surface of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer to the interior surface of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer,

~~an~~ a moisture absorbent member positioned within the internal volume of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer, the moisture absorbent member operable to receive the grip on the shaft of the golf club through the

opening formed at the bottom portion of the outer
~~cushioned~~ layer, and

a coupling operable to attach the apparatus to a golf
~~bag in such a manner that the opening of the~~
~~outer cushioned layer is positioned generally~~
~~downwardly to prevent downwardly falling rain~~
~~from entering the opening of the outer cushioned~~
~~layer and wetting the absorbent member~~, wherein
the grip on the shaft of the golf club may be
inserted into the opening of the outer ~~cushioned~~
layer and into the internal volume of the outer
~~cushioned~~ layer, the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer
operable to be squeezed until it is deformed to
contact the moisture absorbent member with the
grip on the shaft of the golf club while a
portion of the shaft of the golf club is
positioned within the opening of the outer
~~cushioned~~ layer without the opening being
sealingly engaged around the portion of the shaft
of the golf club positioned within the opening,
~~wherein the outer cushioned layer is operable to~~

~~return to its original shape after being squeezed
and to allow the golf club to be removed from the
internal volume of the outer cushioned layer;~~

inserting the grip on the shaft of the golf club into the
internal volume of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer through
the opening formed at the bottom portion of the outer
~~cushioned~~ layer;

contacting the moisture absorbent member, which is
positioned within the internal volume of the outer
~~cushioned~~ layer, with the grip on the shaft of the
golf club by applying a pressure to the exterior
surface of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer to cause at least
a portion of an area of the moisture absorbent member
to contact the grip on the shaft of the golf club; and
removing the grip on the shaft of the golf club from the
internal volume of the outer ~~cushioned~~ layer.

58. (New) The method of Claim 57, further comprising:
squeezing the outer layer to adjust the opening formed at

the bottom of the outer layer to become operable to
receive the grip on the shaft of the golf club into
the internal volume of the outer layer.

59. (New) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the outer
cushioned layer is operable to return to its original
shape after being squeezed and to allow the golf club
to be removed from the internal volume of the outer
cushioned layer.

60. (New) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the opening
formed at the bottom portion of the outer cushioned
layer is provided generally in an elliptical shape.

61. (New) An apparatus to condition a grip on a shaft of an implement, the apparatus comprising:

an outer cushioned layer that includes a top portion, a bottom portion, an interior surface, an opening formed at the bottom portion, an internal volume defined as the volume bordered by the interior surface of the outer cushioned layer and the opening of the outer cushioned layer, and an exterior surface, wherein the outer cushioned layer is substantially waterproof such that water may not easily directly pass through the outer cushioned layer from the exterior surface of the outer cushioned layer to the interior surface of the outer cushioned layer, and wherein the outer cushioned layer is operable to be squeezed adjacent the opening to adjust the opening to receive the grip on the shaft of the implement into the internal volume of the outer layer;

a moisture absorbent member positioned within the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer, the moisture absorbent member operable to receive the grip on the

shaft of the implement through the opening formed at the bottom portion of the outer cushioned layer; and a coupling operable to attach the apparatus to object, wherein the grip on the shaft of the implement may be inserted into the opening of the outer cushioned layer and into the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer, the outer cushioned layer operable to be squeezed until it is deformed to contact the moisture absorbent member with the grip on the shaft of the implement to provide additional contact between the moisture absorbent member and the grip on the shaft of the implement to condition the grip while a portion of the shaft of the implement is positioned within the opening of the outer cushioned layer without the opening being sealingly engaged around the portion of the shaft of the implement positioned within the opening, wherein the outer cushioned layer is operable to return to its original shape after being squeezed and to allow the implement to be removed from the internal volume of the outer cushioned layer.